UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/725
11 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 123 (b)

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General (A/51/535) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/684).

3. The Committee considered the item at its 35th and 39th meetings, on 2 and 11 December 1996. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.35 and 39).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DECISION A/C.5/51/L.15

4. At the 39th meeting, on 11 December, the representative of Latvia introduced a draft decision entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon" (A/C.5/51/L.15), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.15 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:[2]

(a) Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against their future apportionments their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 10,556,600 United States dollars gross (8,783,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 February 1995 to 31 January 1996;

(b) Also decides that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, their share of the unencumbered balance of 10,556,600 dollars gross (8,783,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 February 1995 to 31 January 1996 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations.

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[1] A/51/535.

[2] A/51/684.

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A/51/726
11 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 125 (a)

FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES ARISING FROM SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 687 (1991): UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991): United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 35th and 39th meetings, on 2 and 11 December 1996. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.35 and 39).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Fifth Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General (A/51/658) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/683).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DECISION A/C.5/51/L.16

4. At the 39th meeting, on 11 December 1996, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft decision entitled "Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" (A/C.5/51/L.16), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/51/L.16 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996,[3]

(a) Decides that, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait of two thirds of the cost of the Observation Mission, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their future apportionments their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 2,436,433 United States dollars gross (1,633,633 dollars net), representing one third of the unencumbered balance of 5,703,700 dollars gross (4,900,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1994 to 31 December 1995;

(b) Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 2,436,433 dollars gross (1,633,633 dollars net), representing one third of the unencumbered balance of 5,703,700 dollars gross (4,900,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1994 to 31 December 1995, shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

(c) Decides further that two thirds of the net unencumbered balance of 4,900,900 dollars, equivalent to 3,267,267 dollars, shall be returned to the Government of Kuwait;

(d) Requests the Secretary-General to take immediate action to recover the overpayment, which is estimated at over $844,000, relating to mission subsistence allowance and to report to the General Assembly, no later than 31 May 1997, on the results of the actions taken for its recovery, as well as on the comprehensive review of the policies of the Organization in respect of compensatory time off and mission subsistence allowance.

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[1] A/51/658.

[2] A/51/683.

[3] A/51/432, annex.

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A/51/727
~~S/1996/1035~~
11 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 16
APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 10 December 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter dated 10 December 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council concerning the regional rotation of the post of the Secretary-General (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 16, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anatoli M. ZLENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations

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Annex

Letter dated 10 December 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Recently, in connection with the issue of the appointment of the Secretary-General, which is currently under consideration, the problem of the regional rotation of the highest political and administrative post in the United Nations has become a matter of principle.

In this context, your statement of 4 December 1996 on behalf of the Security Council is of special importance. In it, you pointed out the priority right of the African group and individual African countries to recommend their candidatures for the post of the Secretary-General. Thus the Security Council has confirmed the existence de facto of the rotation principle which has already become an inalienable constituting part and normal practice of the organization and conduct of activities in the framework of the United Nations, including the elections of its chief executive officer.

In this regard, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that for more than half a century of the United Nations history, it is only the Eastern European regional group that has never had its representative elected to this post of high responsibility. Therefore, in its position Ukraine proceeds from the understanding that at the next elections of the Secretary-General, to be held in 2001, the Security Council will show its consistency and reconfirm the priority right of the above-mentioned group of countries, which has substantially increased in number, to submit their candidatures.

I would be very grateful if you could circulate this letter among the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anatoli M. ZLENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ukraine to the United Nations

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General Assembly
Security Council

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S/1996/1040
13 December 1996
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ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 43
THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Identical letters dated 12 December 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from the Burundian Government which summarizes the positions of opposition to the economic blockade against Burundi that have been adopted and officially recorded in the declarations issued by His Holiness Pope John-Paul II on 25 September 1996, by the World Food Summit, held from 13 to 17 November 1996 in Rome, by the summit meeting of heads of State and Government of the countries members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held in Brazzaville on 2 and 3 December 1996, and by the nineteenth summit meeting of the Heads of State of France and Africa, held in Ouagadougou from 4 to 6 December 1996.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nsanze TERENCE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Identical letters dated 10 December 1996 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Burundi addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that the summit meeting of heads of State and Government of the countries members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held at Brazzaville on 2 and 3 December 1996, considered, inter alia, the situation in the Great Lakes region and, in particular, the situation in Burundi.

At the conclusion of the summit meeting, the heads of State and Government adopted the following position on Burundi:

"[We] note the efforts being made by Burundi and Rwanda to receive and reintegrate refugees in conditions of security and dignity, and encourage those countries to continue such efforts.

"[We] note the measures already taken by the Government of Burundi to restore the democratic process in that country, and take note of its commitment to expedite the creation of democratic institutions within a reasonable time-frame by giving priority to dialogue with the political class as a whole and all segments of Burundian society.

"[We] invite the States parties to the Arusha Accords to lift the embargo, which has a greater effect on the Burundian people, especially the most vulnerable social classes.

"[We] encourage therefore all parties in Burundi to choose a form of mediation which guarantees objectivity and neutrality in order to move ahead in the peace process, in the interests of the people of Burundi.

"The officers of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa will support such measures."

The nineteenth summit meeting of the heads of State of France and African countries, held at Ouagadougou from 4 to 6 December 1996, after reaffirming its support for the utilization of subregional structures for enhancing crisis-prevention and coordination under the auspices of the United Nations, shared the views expressed by the inter-agency meeting at Brazzaville with regard to the situation in Burundi:

"The heads of State, Government and delegation have taken note of the Declaration of the summit meeting of the heads of State and Government of the countries members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, held on 2 and 3 December 1996 in Brazzaville, the Congo."

In addition, the Rome Declaration on Global Food Security, issued at the conclusion of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, affirms the following with regard to the blockade imposed against Burundi:

"Food should not be used as an instrument for political and economic pressure. We reaffirm the importance of international cooperation and solidarity as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures, not in accordance with the international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that endanger food security."

Similarly, His Holiness Pope John-Paul II, noting how the suffering of Burundians had been increased by the sanctions, said in a General Audience at the Vatican on 25 September 1996 "... I hope that those sanctions, which weigh most heavily on the civilian population, will be lifted." Further to that appeal, the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations sounded this warning on 20 November 1996: "If Burundi continues to be isolated and its people condemned to live in conditions of extreme need, it is possible that extremists of all sorts will seize the opportunity to plunge the country into chaos."

The Government of Burundi is pleased to note that the Pope and the heads of State and Government have grasped the full significance of the tragic and unbearable situation caused by the illegal, unjust and immoral blockade imposed on the Burundian people since July 1996 by the Arusha Summit; may they feel themselves involved and draw the appropriate practical conclusions.

Burundi has consistently maintained that the blockade is not an instrument of peace. Rather, it is an impediment to the efforts aimed at bringing relief and assistance to those who have suffered from three years of war, to protect and organize people of all ethnic groups from lethal violence, to restore peace and revitalize the democratic process through a dialogue and debate whose outlines have already been drawn, and to restore justice, chiefly by bringing to justice those responsible for the murder of President Ndadaye and acts of genocide against the Tutsi minority (see S/1996/682 and S/1996/910).

Furthermore, Burundi has consistently requested the international community - certain of whose members among Burundi's neighbours are manipulating Burundian refugees at the expense of ethnic integration and are providing a base for terrorist organizations - to support the efforts of Burundians, while acknowledging the responsibility of the latter and meeting their true expectations.

Accordingly, the Government of Burundi calls upon the competent organs of the United Nations, in the light of the foregoing, to take, as a matter of urgency, all necessary steps to implement the resolutions on Burundi produced by the summit meeting of heads of State and Government of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43.

(Signed) Luc RUKINGAMA
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Cooperation

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

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A/51/729
13 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 56

THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Letter dated 12 December 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Guinea to the United Nations addressed addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the issue of Bosnia and Herzegovina which, among others, is being discussed at the Twenty-Fourth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers being convened at Jakarta from 9 to 13 December 1996.

In advance of the final resolution concerning this issue, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) would like to inform the Secretariat and the membership of the Security Council that it considers the full, consistent and comprehensive implementation of the Dayton/Paris Agreement to be of the utmost importance.

OIC considers the following points, each an integral and explicit part of the Dayton/Paris Agreement itself, to be particularly important in the deliberations on the implementation of the Dayton/Paris Agreement:

The independence, sovereignty, legal continuity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders must be fully supported and preserved;

The importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia should not be underestimated for securing peace and reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region by ensuring that justice is served;

No response has been given to the requests of the President of the Tribunal, Judge Antonio Cassese, even though he has on two occasions written to the President of the Security Council requesting an appropriate response to the lack of cooperation and compliance with the Tribunal and its orders by several parties to the Dayton/Paris Agreement, particularly

the Republika Srpska entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), which, according to the third annual report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (A/51/292-S/1996/665 of 16 August 1966), have a dismal record on cooperation. These letters are contained in documents S/1996/556 and S/1996/763. The divergent levels of compliance are described in detail in the Tribunal's report. OIC expresses its satisfaction that, according to the report, the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been by far the most cooperative party;

OIC further notes the resolution of the Judges of the Tribunal, dated 3 December 1996, expressing the dissatisfaction of the Judges with the support the Tribunal has received from the international community, and attaches the utmost importance to providing an appropriate response to the requests of the President of the Tribunal and in fully supporting the Tribunal in all aspects of its work;

OIC is convinced of the necessity to ensure the right of voluntary return for refugees and displaced persons to their homes of origin and freedom of movement in the interests of preserving a lasting peace, is concerned that efforts to impede such return are not being responded to adequately, and welcomes the establishment on 30 October 1996 of the Coalition for Return, composed of refugees and displaced persons from within and outside Bosnia and Herzegovina including members of all communities, which supports the realization of annex 7 to the Peace Agreement;

Reports have suggested that the Republika Srpska entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina and perhaps the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) have not been cooperating in good faith with the Subregional Arms Control Agreement, an essential element in confidence-building and in establishing regional stability.

These issues, among others, are now being deliberated in Jakarta during this crucial time to consolidate the peace following the successful completion of the Paris and London conferences. The OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina would recommend that these issues be addressed within the General Assembly in the form of a draft resolution already co-sponsored by many of our friends. We believe that OIC's continuing activity in the pursuit of a stable, just and lasting peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina is of great benefit.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Aboubacar DIONE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Chairman of the Islamic Group
at the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS **A S**

General Assembly
Security Council

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A/51/730
S/1996/1043
13 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 10
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON
THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Identical letters dated 10 December 1996 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and to the President of the Security Council

I wish to refer to the High-level Consultation on Post-conflict Peace-building in West Africa: Political and Development Initiatives, held in New York on 21 October 1996 under my auspices, with the participation of representatives of the 16 members of the Economic Community of West African States as well as of 21 donor countries and five multilateral institutions. The Consultation was co-chaired by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. It considered strategies for formulating and funding, in the specific West African context, programmes aimed at consolidating peace and promoting development in post-conflict situations.

The focused and consensual atmosphere of the Consultation allowed for an in-depth, action-oriented consideration of the issues under review. The purpose of the present letter is to bring to the attention of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council, in advance of the detailed summary of the Consultation being prepared by UNDP, some of the findings, ideas and proposals discussed by the participants. It should be read in the context of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995 (S/PRST/1995/9), in which the Council urged States "to support the efforts of the United Nations system with regard to preventive and post-conflict peace-building activities and, in this context, to provide necessary assistance for the economic and social development of countries, especially those which have suffered or are suffering from conflicts".

A first finding was that, in West Africa, peace-building is indeed relevant to all phases of a conflict and should therefore not be limited to post-conflict situations only. Reference was made repeatedly to those "half-war half-peace situations", as a participant called them, where a country may experience a high level of insecurity and instability but not continuous, full-fledged hostilities. The point was made throughout the Consultation that the foundation on which peace is built must be laid before a conflict ends and that development should be an integral part of that foundation.

A second finding was that West African countries affected by war or in special situations need not only humanitarian relief but also assistance that will address as a matter of priority the security and political dimensions of development. Included in that assistance should be programmes aimed at disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, demining, strengthening of civil society, confidence-building, enhancement of public security, reconciliation, strengthening of public institutions etc. In some cases, especially in the wake of a peacekeeping operation, the peace-building activities conducted by the United Nations system should be placed temporarily under the overall coordination of a special representative of the Secretary-General, with a mandate to focus those activities on the restoration and consolidation of peace and security.

Several obstacles to assistance of the type described above were identified. One was the current definition of official development assistance, which excludes programmes aimed primarily at the restoration of a safe and secure environment. Another related obstacle was the reluctance of donor countries to allocate development funds to countries characterized by a high level of insecurity. This reluctance led to situations such as those in Mali and Sierra Leone, where substantial development funds had been committed by the donor community but their delivery had been conditioned by some donors on the signing of a formal peace accord. The result was that urgently needed assistance that could have contributed to an early restoration of security and stability in those countries was unnecessarily delayed.

Two proposals were made to overcome these obstacles: (a) to include programmes aimed primarily at the restoration of a safe and secure environment in the official definition of development assistance; and (b) to establish a peace fund to finance programmes that promote the security needed for development and humanitarian relief. I have asked the Co-Chairmen of the Consultation to examine and report to me on the possible design and terms of reference of such a funding mechanism.

A third finding of the Consultation was that the proliferation of small arms poses a threat to the security and development of West Africa as a whole and not only individual countries. The two missions which I sent to Mali and to the Sahara-Sahel countries in 1994 and 1995, respectively, under the leadership of former Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity William Eteki-Mboumoua, have emphasized both the importance of micro-disarmament as a peace-building tool and the destabilizing effects of cross-border flows of small arms. Every effort should therefore be made by donor countries not only to include disarmament programmes in their development assistance but also to

stem the uncontrolled export of small arms to regions that do not manufacture them.

A fourth finding was that peace and disarmament efforts are at their most effective when a Government shows the political will to address the root causes of conflict, when friendly neighbours offer impartial mediation, and when donor countries and the United Nations provide the necessary assistance. This finding was based on an extensive discussion of Mali's recent history, led and informed by two Ministers from that country who described their Government's determination to involve all segments of the population in the peace process, to recognize the specific development needs of the north, to reintegrate former combatants into civil society, to help resettle refugees and to provide a secure environment conducive to disarmament.

Beyond the case of Mali, there is increasing and welcome evidence that the forces of peace are overcoming those of war in West Africa. In Sierra Leone, in Liberia and in other countries, West Africans are showing their strong commitment to peace, reconciliation and development and deserve the full support of the international community and the United Nations system. In that connection, reference was made by some of the participants to the difficulty of defining the respective responsibilities of the Security Council and the General Assembly in post-conflict peace-building and of apportioning the funding of the related activities between assessed and voluntary contributions. It was suggested that the Council and the Assembly might want to consider ways of clarifying their respective responsibilities in that field so that the United Nations system can provide more readily and more effectively the special type of assistance needed by countries threatened by, or emerging from, armed conflict.

In the belief that this High-level Consultation on Post-conflict Peace-building in West Africa was a useful initiative, I shall consider organizing similar consultations on other regions whose specific development and security conditions could benefit from this kind of attention of the international community.

I should be grateful if you could bring this information to the attention of the members of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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S/1996/1044
13 December 1996

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33, 35 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Identical letters dated 13 December 1996 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have been instructed to bring the following to your immediate attention. This week the Israeli authorities approved a plan of construction of 132 housing units for Jewish settlers in the heart of occupied East Jerusalem on an area of land measuring 14 1/2 dunums. If implemented, the settler colony would be within the original and recognized municipal border of East Jerusalem and it would be in the middle of the crowded Arab neighbourhood of Ras al-Amud, which is inhabited by 11,000 Palestinians. It would also be overlooking Al-Haram Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Israeli plan for the settlement violates the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, article 49 of which prohibits the occupying Power from transferring its civilian populations into the occupied territory. Many Security Council resolutions have affirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to all the occupied territory, including Jerusalem. Further, the Israeli plan violates specific Security Council resolutions related to Jerusalem, including resolutions 250 (1968), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 271 (1969), 298 (1971), 446 (1979), 476 (1980), 478 (1980) and 672 (1990). In those resolutions the Council, inter alia, declared that all of the measures and arrangements taken by Israel, including the legislative and administrative ones, aimed at changing the legal status of the city are null and void and without any legal validity. In

those resolutions the Council also called upon Israel to desist from changing the character of the city and its demographic composition.

The General Assembly only recently, on 4 December 1996, reaffirmed once again a clear position in this regard in its adoption of the resolution on Jerusalem (resolution 51/27) by an overwhelming majority, which was adopted as part of a series of General Assembly resolutions critical of Israel's policies and behaviour. Today the General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted a resolution on the Israeli settlements (resolution 51/133), reaffirming that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, are illegal and demanding complete cessation of all settlement activities.

The Israeli plan in Ras al-Amud also represents a gross violation of the Declaration of Principles signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization on 13 September 1993, in which the parties agreed to negotiate, among other things, the status of Jerusalem as part of the negotiations on the final settlement, which should have already commenced in May of this year. Needless to say, this obliges the parties not to create new facts on the ground which would pre-empt the expected negotiations and render them useless. In addition, it is certain that such a new settler colony would generate practical and dangerous ramifications. The prevailing situation created by the illegal settler colony in Hebron is a clear example in this regard.

The Israeli Government obviously has not ceased attempting to further change the situation in Jerusalem and create a new demographic composition in the city. A case of such was raised in our letter to Your Excellency of 27 August 1996 (A/51/310-S/1996/699) regarding the Israeli destruction of the building belonging to the Burj al-Laqlaq Society within the walled Old City of Jerusalem. Another case was the opening by the Israeli authorities of a tunnel in the vicinity of Al-Haram Al-Sharif and their refusal to comply with Security Council resolution 1073 (1996) in this regard. Also, the Israeli Government has repeatedly imposed illegal measures aimed at depriving Palestinian Jerusalemites of their inherent right to live, like their ancestors did, in their city. The Israeli authorities have been considering Palestinian Jerusalemites as "foreigners" and applying all kinds of illegal tricks and manoeuvres to take away the so-called "residence rights" from them, including, for instance, attempts to do so to those who have American citizenship.

Sources also indicate that the current Israeli Government plans to build two more settler colonies within occupied East Jerusalem, in Wadi al-Joz and Jabal al-Mukabir, in addition to the plan for building another settler colony in Jabal Abu-Guneihm. All of the above-mentioned come as part of the intensification of settlement building by the Israeli Government in pursuit of its campaign of settler colonialism in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem.

The Israeli Government, then, is following an illegal and dangerous path. Its plan in Ras al-Amud is tampering with the sensitive and precarious issue of Jerusalem. It is completely illegal under international law and the relevant Security Council resolutions. It threatens to shatter the Middle East peace process and thus threaten international peace and security.

The Security Council has the responsibility to act on behalf of the international community to prevent such developments, to protect the peace process and to guarantee respect for the Council's resolutions and for international law. Accordingly, we request that the Council formally consider the matter and urgently take the necessary measures in this regard.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as an official document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

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A/51/732
13 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 16

APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 13 December 1996 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to inform you that the Security Council, at its 3725th meeting held in private on 13 December 1996, adopted by acclamation resolution 1090 (1996) concerning the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The resolution reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Having considered the question of the recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations,

"Recommends to the General Assembly that Mr. Kofi Annan be appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations for a term of office from 1 January 1997 to 31 December 2001."

Thereafter, the Security Council, by acclamation, adopted the following resolution:

"The Security Council,

"Recognizing the central role that Secretary-General Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali has played in guiding the Organization in the discharge of his responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations,

"Further recognizing his sustained efforts towards finding just and lasting solutions to various disputes and conflicts around the globe,

"Commending the reforms that he has initiated and the many proposals that he has made on the restructuring and strengthening of the role and functioning of the United Nations system,

"1. Acknowledges the contribution of Secretary-General Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali to international peace, security and development, his exceptional efforts to solve international problems in economic, social and cultural fields, as well as his endeavours to meet humanitarian needs and to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

"2. Expresses its deep appreciation to Secretary-General Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali for his dedication to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter and to the development of friendly relations among nations."

(Signed) Francesco Paolo FULCI
President of the Security Council

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

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A/51/733
16 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 116, 118, 144, 147,
150 and 151

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions recommended to the General Assembly for adoption by the Sixth Committee in its reports (A/51/624, A/51/627, A/51/630, draft resolution II, and A/51/631

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

1. At its 44th meeting, on 15 December 1996, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the note by the Secretariat on meetings additional to the approved calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1996-1997 (A/C.5/51/22 and Add.1 and 2).

2. Statements and comments made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/51/SR.44).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the relevant draft resolutions contained in the reports of the Sixth Committee on agenda items 144, Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses; 147, Establishment of an international criminal court; 150, Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization; and 151, Measures to eliminate international terrorism, the question of the additional meetings requested in connection with those resolutions would be dealt with by the Fifth Committee in the context of its draft resolution on agenda item 118, Pattern of conferences.

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.58

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

1. At its 44th meeting, on 15 December 1996, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/42) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.58. The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman (see A/C.5/51/SR.44).

2. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/51/SR.44).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/51/L.58, additional requirements of $408,700 would arise for 1997 under section 3, Peacekeeping operations and special missions, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. Additional requirements of $68,200 would also arise under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment. These requirements would be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the revised appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997.

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.57

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

1. At its 44th meeting, on 15 December 1996, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/41) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.57. The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman (see A/C.5/51/SR.44).

2. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/51/SR.44).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/51/L.57, additional requirements of $7,102,400 would arise under section 3, Peacekeeping operations and special missions, of the

programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. Additional requirements of $500,100 would also arise under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment. These requirements would be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the revised appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997.

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.49 B

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

1. At its 44th meeting, on 15 December 1996, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/40) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.49 B. The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman (see A/C.5/51/SR.44).

2. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/51/SR.44).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/51/L.49 B, additional requirements of $3,100,000 would arise under section 3, Peacekeeping operations and special missions, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. Additional requirements of $282,600 would also arise under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment. These requirements would be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the revised appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997.

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